

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 6, line 3 and ending on page 7, line 2 with the following amended paragraph.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 4, the protection and tamper notification apparatus 32 further includes bendable or flexible straps 34a and 34b. Strap 34a has a tongue 36 with a saw edge 37 and strap 34b has a tongue housing 38. Straps 34a and 34b may be integral or separate. The tongue 36 is received within the tongue housing 38 upon enclosing of valve 48. The straps 34 are bent at bendable portions 40 (Fig. 4) about valve 48 (Figs. 2 and 3). In one example, the bendable portion 40 may include an indentation or channel 42 or a series of indentations or channels 42 within the straps 34 that facilitate the bending of the straps and/or provide the user with a selection of locations in which the straps will bend relatively easily. The straps may comprise, for example, a bendable plastic or rubber material. When bent at appropriate sections, the straps 34 form a fence 44 (Fig. 4), which may be square shaped, around valve 48 (Figs. 2 and 3) connected to the fluid cylinder or tank. The fluid cylinder (not shown) is typically attached to valve base 46. A front portion of the fence 44 includes a wall 52 on one side of the tapered cylinder 20 that may or may not include channels 42, and a portion of the tongue receiver 38 on the other side of the tapered cylinder. A left side portion of the fence 44 includes a wall 54 featuring a tab 56 with perforations 58 on either side of the tab 56 down the height of the wall 54. A rear portion of the fence includes a needle eye portion 60, including a ring 61 and an extended base 65, in the strap 34a. The needle eye 60 is large enough to allow a burst disk ~~[[62]]~~ 63 (Figs. 2 and 3) on another end of valve 48 to be received within the ring. A right side portion of the fence includes a

wall 53, and tongue housing 38, through which the saw edged tongue 36 is insertable so that the valve 48 is fenced in within opening 67. The tongue 36 is inserted within the tongue housing 38 in a direction indicated by arrow A locking the apparatus.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 8, line 7 and ending on line 12 with the following amended paragraph.

Further, where the device 32 includes the ring 61 through which burst disk ~~[[62]]~~ 63 is inserted, the device will typically remain on the valve 48, serving as evidence that the device was compromised and that the valve 48 and/or the fluid within the fluid cylinder was made accessible and possibly tampered with.